Exhibit 17 - Ross/Rigby/Arthur Vargas Transcript from Phone Call

00001:01 FROST: Turn your's on too, Ross. This is

- 02 January 17th, 2018, time is 2:39. We are about
- 03 to place a call to Arthur Vargas in reference
- 04 of picking up stolen tires from Louisiana.
- 05 RIGBY: Goodyear.
- 06 VARGAS: Hello.
- 07 RIGBY: Hey, Art. What's up? This is Ross.
- 08 VARGAS: Hey, what's going on, Bro?
- 09 RIGBY: Oh, not much. Hey, uh, my cousin
- 10 stole a bunch of tires from this place where
- 11 he works in Louisiana. I think Art told you
- 12 this right?
- 13 VARGAS: Uh-huh. He was telling me about that.
- 14 RIGBY: Okay. Uh, basically I need to get them
- 15 down here. People are already waiting on them
- 16 but, uh, the way we got 'em to where they're
- 17 at right now is we put them in a cattle trailer
- 18 and you can see into it so I'm kinda worried
- 19 about that. You know what I mean?
- 20 VARGAS: Oh, shit. Awesome. You want to
- 21 to bring them back like that? Loaded in that
- 22 --- that cattle trailer?
- 23 RIGBY: No, I don't want to do it because --
- 24 VARGAS: Can't you can cover it up?
- 25 RIGBY: -- see into it and there's a -- a, you

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- 00002:01 know there's a whole bunch of 'em. So I don't
  - 02 want people to be able to see what they are.
  - 03 VARGAS: Yeah.
  - 04 RIGBY: So I would -- how -- how do you
  - 05 get them -- how would be able to get them down
  - 06 here?
  - 07 VARGAS: Usually the way get them down here is
  - 08 we rent U-Haul's and load them up in a U-Haul.
  - 09 RIGBY: Yeah.
  - 10 VARGAS: One of those big long U-Haul's.
  - 11 RIGBY: Yeah.
  - 12 VARGAS: That's usually how we transport them.
  - 13 RIGBY: Okay. And you can --
  - 14 VARGAS: So --
  - 15 RIGBY: -- can you come get them?
  - 16 VARGAS: Yeah, I mean I'll go down there with you
  - 17 we can, like I say we can get a -- a U-Haul like
  - 18 rent it. That way it's not -- the U-Haul's not
  - 19 stolen that way we can like drive it all the way
  - 20 back.
  - 21 RIGBY: Okay. Yeah, that will work. And like I
  - 22 said if you can --
  - 23 VARGAS: I mean you can --
  - 24 RIGBY: -- get it my cousin's --
  - 25 VARGAS: -- you can use a cattle trailer if you

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00003:01
     but, uh, the only way with a cattle trailer is
 02
      we'll have to buy those tarps and [UI]
 03
      RIGBY: Yeah, I -- I -- I don't want to use that
 04
      shit. I'd rather do it --
 05
      VARGAS: It might be safer --
 06
      RIGBY: Yeah.
 07
      VARGAS: It might be safer in a U-Haul.
 8 0
      RIGBY: Yeah.
 09
      VARGAS: Like I said as long as the U-Haul is not
 10
      stolen, the U-Haul is rented --
 11
      RIGBY: Yeah. That sounds good.
 12
      VARGAS: -- that's not a problem in case we get
 13
      pulled over.
      RIGBY: Yeah, if you can --
 14
 15
      VARGAS: [UI]
 16
      RIGBY: -- if you can coordinate all of that --
 17
      VARGAS: [UI]
      RIGBY: -- the -- you know, there's a 150 -- I'll
 18
 19
      give -- I'll give you $50 bucks a tire to bring
 20
      them down here. You just get the U-Haul's and
 21
      stuff and load them up and bring them down here.
 22
      VARGAS: Yeah. Ah, what time are you guys leaving
 23
      tomorrow? What -- what -- what are you looking at
 24
      or what?
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RIGBY: Ah, I'll probably go early and make sure

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- 00004:01 everything is good. Then you can just meet me over
  - 02 there. It's in, ah, Lake Charles.
  - 03 VARGAS: Okay.
  - 04 RIGBY: What -- what time can you be there? What
  - 05 time do you like to do this?
  - 06 VARGAS: It's don't matter, Ross, whenever you can
  - 07 take off over there.
  - 08 RIGBY: What about like -- could you meet me there at
  - 09 like 4:00 in Lake Charles?
  - 10 VARGAS: In the afternoon?
  - 11 RIGBY: Yeah.
  - 12 VARGAS: Yeah. What time are you going to head out
  - 13 that direction?
  - 14 RIGBY: I'll probably go early just to make sure
  - 15 everything is good and I'd say probably 8 in the
  - 16 morning or so, 10:00 in the morning.
  - 17 VARGAS: You want us go up there and ride with you
  - 18 or not? Then once you get up there then -- I guess
  - 19 we'll meet, make sure it's good -- everything is good
  - then we'll arrange whatever we have to arrange. Then
  - 21 we will head back this way, this direction, head back?
  - 22 RIGBY: No, I'll probably -- probably beat you there by
  - 23 a little bit. Like I said my cousin lives there and
  - 24 stuff I'll probably be with him. And then we'll get
  - 25 everything ready. And then, uh, when you guys get up

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- 00005:01 there if y'all want just, you know, shoot me a call
  - 02 when you're in the area, everything is good and, uh,
  - 03 I'll meet you over there and load them up and we can
  - 04 come back.
  - 05 VARGAS: What's, ah, what I was going to say is, ah,
  - 06 it's in a storage facility right?
  - 07 RIGBY: Yeah, there in -- there in a storage right
  - 08 now.
  - 09 VARGAS: Well, hey does that storage have a certain time
  - 10 that you can be in and out of there or no? 'Cause I
  - 11 know most storages that we've done and stuff like that
  - 12 before it has like you can only be in there by 10:00
  - 13 at night once after 10:00 at night you can't get in there
  - 14 no more.
  - 15 RIGBY: Yeah, that's why I want to do it like at 4 but you
  - 16 know --
  - 17 VARGAS: I just want to make sure that -- that I guess go
  - 18 and check out and make sure everything is good still.
  - 19 We're able to get it out before that time comes around
  - 20 and we can't get in there.
  - 21 RIGBY: Yeah, so if we -- if we shoot for like 4:00 we
  - 22 should be good.
  - 23 VARGAS: [UI] certain time --
  - 24 RIGBY: But I don't think -- I --
  - 25 VARGAS: Okay.

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- 00006:01 RIGBY: -- don't think there is a limit on what time we
  - 02 can get in there whenever we have a key to get in.
  - 03 VARGAS: Okay, yeah, because I know that most storage
  - 04 facilities, they have a like a code to punch in to get in
  - 05 the gate and I want to say 10:00 they -- it doesn't give
  - 06 you access to get in there. I -- I've been trying to find
  - 07 storages for the last couple of months, that's 24 hours
  - 08 and they don't have access. It says 10:00, I guess it
  - 09 doesn't let you go in there. I don't know if they figure
  - 10 people steal at night and go and put stuff in storages or
  - 11 what. I don't know how it is out there --
  - 12 RIGBY: Okay. Well, so if we're out there at 4 or 5 in
  - 13 the afternoon we should be good --
  - 14 VARGAS: Yeah, if you want to get out there and make
  - 15 sure everything is good and then give us the okay then
  - 16 we'll meet you at whatever location, let you know
  - 17 everything is good and we'll get it --
  - 18 RIGBY: Yeah, well my cousin is up there right now, he's
  - 19 saying everything is a go. He's -- he's pushing my ass
  - 20 to do it hard. He needs money, and you know, I can always
  - 21 use money who doesn't like money but, uh --
  - 22 VARGAS: Yeah.
  - 23 RIGBY: So, if y'all want to just head up there tomorrow,
  - 24 let's shoot for like 4:00 in -- in Lake Charles.
  - 25 VARGAS: Okay.

- 00007:01 RIGBY: Will that work?
  - 02 VARGAS: Yeah, that works for us.
  - 03 RIGBY: Okay. Uh, yeah, and then I'll -- I'll give you
  - 04 details tomorrow. Is there -- and I'll just get the --
  - 05 are you gonna have your phone on tomorrow so that I can
  - 06 call you? 'Cause it won't -- I --
  - 07 VARGAS: Yeah, I get my -- I get my -- I get my phone
  - 08 on by tomorrow so you can get a hold of me directly.
  - 09 RIGBY: Okay. And what's a good number for that?
  - 10 VARGAS: Ah, it's a 210 --
  - 11 RIGBY: Okay. Hold on a second, let me right this down.
  - 12 210?
  - 13 VARGAS: -- hey, what's my phone number? It's, ah, 210-609
  - 14 RIGBY: -- okay. 609 --
  - 15 VARGAS: Yeah, 609. 210 area code.
  - 16 RIGBY: Okay.
  - 17 VARGAS: -- 5704 is the last four.
  - 18 RIGBY: 5704. 609-5704. Okay. Hey --
  - 19 VARGAS: I think, ah -- I think, ah Art has it too so --
  - 20 RIGBY: Okay. I'll -- I'll get it for sure but --
  - 21 VARGAS: [UI]
  - 22 RIGBY: -- Hey, I'mma -- I've gotta --
  - 23 VARGAS: I've got to turn in a little bit though.
  - 24 RIGBY: -- and -- and who's gonna get the U-Haul? You
  - 25 are?

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00008:01
     VARGAS: Ah, I don't think I -- I can't rent a U-Haul
 02
      'cause flagged me in their system. I tried renting a
 03
      U-haul a while back and I couldn't get a U-Haul. I
 04
      asked them why and they were like we don't really know
 05
      [UI] and I asked another friend of mine why was that
 06
      and he was like hey bro you may be flagged in their
 07
      system, you can't rent U-Haul's 'cause maybe they
 8 0
      know what your brother used to do or have you ever
 09
     been caught with your brother, I go, I never been
10
      caught with my brother, I been questioned but I never
11
     been caught with my brother He said yeah, I betcha
12
      they have you in their system where you can't rent -- you
13
     can't rent anything from them. Like no and he said naw.
14
      RIGBY: So you have somebody that can get it or --
15
     VARGAS: So -- I just -- I just want you to know that I --
 16
      I have a drivers' license but as far as renting it, I
17
      can't rent it.
 18
      RIGBY: Uh-huh.
 19
     VARGAS: Once somebody rent's it I'll drive it. As far
 20
      as me renting it in my name U-Haul won't let me rent it.
21
     RIGBY: So how are you gonna get one?
22
     VARGAS: I don't know if -- I don't know if there is
 23
      anything up there. I don't know if there is another
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company -- I don't know what -- what's out there I

quess. I don't know if there is Penske out there or

24

25

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- 00009:01 Hertz or whatever rental places out there but if exactly
  - 02 from U-Haul I know I can't rent from U-Haul. [UI]
  - 03 RIGBY: Okay. But by -- but you think by 4 tomorrow you'll
  - 04 have a -- you'll have a truck? Or I can --
  - 05 VARGAS: Worst case scenario bro like -- can you hear
  - 06 us?
  - 07 RIGBY: Yeah, I can hear you.
  - 08 VARGAS: Worst case scenario I can take -- I can take
  - 09 one of my partners with me. I'll let him -- I'll let
  - 10 him steal a truck. That's -- that's what he does
  - 11 sometimes. But -- I guess -- like I said -- I -- I
  - 12 would think it would be safer to rent a truck up there
  - 13 that way if you get pulled over by law enforcement and
  - 14 you were driving it all the way back, it's what like
  - 15 an eight hour drive?
  - 16 RIGBY: Okay. So you got a buddy you're worried about
  - 17 ah, you know what -- we'll see -- let me -- let me
  - 18 make a call see if my cousin -- maybe my cousin can
  - 19 rent one for us. And we'll have that -- we'll have
  - 20 that all squared away.
  - 21 VARGAS: It -- it has to be somebody that has a drivers'
  - 22 license that's -- driver's license -- like I said --
  - 23 RIGBY: Okay. So --
  - 24 VARGAS: -- once somebody rents it I -- I can drive it
  - 25 but as far as me pulling it out, they won't let me pull

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- 00010:01 it out. They said exactly -- for what reason I don't
  - 02 know. 'Cause the last time I tried renting a U-Haul
  - 03 they had to call corporate headquarters --
  - 04 RIGBY: Ugh --
  - 05 VARGAS: [UI] even the computer system wouldn't tell
  - 06 them why.
  - 07 RIGBY: Okay.
  - 08 VARGAS: So last --
  - 09 RIGBY: How big a truck do you think we need?
  - 10 VARGAS: -- time a friend of mine that's what they
  - 11 were telling me.
  - 12 RIGBY: How big a truck do you need?
  - 13 VARGAS: But yeah just -- what size we need? It's
  - 14 not even -- it's not even going to fit in a truck.
  - 15 The biggest U-Haul that they have is a 20 footer
  - 16 and that won't fit but 109.
  - 17 RIGBY: 109?
  - 18 VARGAS: Yeah, 100 -- 150 will not fit.
  - 19 RIGBY: So get the --
  - 20 VARGAS: Well, what size is your house?
  - 21 RIGBY: -- the biggest one you got?
  - 22 VARGAS: Yeah, the biggest -- the biggest one is a
  - 23 20 foot man. That one jammed packed with all the
  - 24 seating will fit 109 on it.
  - 25 RIGBY: Okay. That will work.

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- 00011:01 VARGAS: So, if you got a -- if you got a -- if you
  - 02 got a 150, 150 is not gonna fit so --
  - 03 RIGBY: Okay. We might to worry about that --
  - 04 VARGAS: The only other think you can do. The only
  - 05 other thing you can do, Ross, is rent the big 20 foot
  - 06 U-Haul and then rent the little -- the little small
  - 07 trailer they kept -- they have --
  - 08 RIGBY: Uh-huh.
  - 09 VARGAS: -- the U-Haul, the big U-Haul is a \$100
  - 10 deposit and then they charge you by the mile.
  - 11 You're probably looking at about \$500, maybe,
  - 12 maybe \$800 to -- from all the way over there over
  - 13 here.
  - 14 RIGBY: Okay.
  - 15 VARGAS: They charge you by the mile. So the deposit
  - on the U-Haul inside is \$100 'cause I -- I used to
  - 17 rent them before, back in the day before I guess they
  - 18 flagged me in their system or whatever they did. I'm
  - 19 not too sure. But then -- so 109 will fit in there
  - 20 so they say 110 will fit in there and then if you have
  - 21 150 you'll probably need that big U-Haul with a small
  - 22 little trailer.
  - 23 RIGBY: All right.
  - 24 VARGAS: That little trailer is like \$20 -- that little
  - 25 trailer is like \$20 but on that little trailer they

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- 00012:01 only charge you because that little trailer doesn't have --
  - 02 doesn't have an engine so I guess it doesn't get miles on
  - 03 it so they just charge you a flat rate per day \$20 a day.
  - 04 RIGBY: Okay, yeah. Let me call my cousin see what he
  - 05 can do. Maybe we'll have that ready and just me and
  - 06 you bring it back and we'll be good.
  - 07 VARGAS: Okay. Sounds good. Just let me -- just let me
  - 08 know and I will turn on my phone.
  - 09 RIGBY: Okay. Turn on your phone and hey, I got a Laredo
  - 10 area code. It will be a 956 number.
  - 11 VARGAS: Okay. That's cool.
  - 12 RIGBY: All right brother.
  - 13 VARGAS: Okay. Talk to you in a little while.
  - 14 RIGBY: Later.